

St Mary's School, Calne

Headmistress: Dr Felicia Kirk, BA (University of Maryland),
MA and PhD (Brown University)



Teacher of Mathematics

Full-time
September 2018

St Mary's is an independent boarding and day school of approximately 350 girls aged 11-18, with a very strong academic reputation. Almost all of the girls go on to university, several each year to Oxbridge, to read a wide variety of subjects, and results in public examinations are consistently excellent. Extra-curricular activities and opportunities beyond the classroom are a vital and integral part of life for girls at St Mary's, who are encouraged to strive for excellence in a wide range of spheres. We pride ourselves on the superb quality of our pastoral care and our focus on individual needs.

We are seeking to appoint a dynamic, highly motivated and inspirational teacher with excellent communication skills, to teach Mathematics certainly up to IGCSE Level and possibly to A Level. The position would suit an enthusiastic, committed and forward looking graduate; applications would be welcome either from experienced teachers or from those who are looking to enter the teaching profession.

St Mary's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils. Due to the nature of the work involved, the successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced DBS check.

The School: its Ethos and Aims

St Mary's believes in excellence in all respects. As a school community, we thrive amidst a culture of high expectation and the education which we seek to provide nurtures and develops the concept of high performance.

The principal aim is to develop well-rounded pupils who are equipped to excel as adults. Whilst the achievement of top quality examination results is a central tenet, since these will be a key passport for the girls in the path to their future careers in the modern world, we seek to encourage everyone to strive for excellence in a wide range of spheres.

We aim to inculcate habits for life, enabling the girls: to relish the prospect of hard work; to develop and deploy the necessary qualities of perseverance and determination; to learn how to do well; to acquire the belief and self-confidence that they are capable of high performance and success – both in the short term and in the future; to instil a sense of desire and an appreciation that the future, indeed their future, lies within the grasp of their own efforts.

Extra-curricular activities and opportunities beyond the classroom are a vital and integral part of life for girls at St Mary's. They are woven into the timetable during the day, in the evenings and at weekends. We believe that both boarders and day girls benefit from all aspects of the strong boarding ethos of the school.

Expectations of Academic Teaching Staff

Most importantly, we are looking for an enthusiastic, energetic and well-qualified teacher who will inspire his/her pupils and who can engage sympathetically with young people. He/she will: make an active contribution to the department; stretch pupils of all abilities to achieve their potential; encourage pupils to learn by making the subject taught both interesting and accessible; be innovative and dynamic in order to ensure the effective delivery of the curriculum. Our pupils' success in acquiring new abilities, skills and understanding depends crucially upon the quality of teaching which we are able to offer.

St Mary's School has an innovative approach, incorporating Connected Teaching and Learning. This is based around the seven attributes of a St Mary's learner which seeks to encourage the girls to be: Proactive Learners; Inquisitive Learners; Creative Thinkers; Confident Learners; Collaborative Learners; Robust Learners and Reflective Learners. These attributes are interwoven into all areas of school life. Members of the teaching staff are expected to embrace this culture of being at the forefront of girls' education through, amongst other things, attending regular CPD sessions and demonstrating an openness to new ideas.

All members of staff are expected to commit to the boarding ethos of the school which includes supporting the extra-curricular life, as well as taking on the role of a House tutor within a boarding House on one evening a week. This provides a key interface between the specific academic work of the classroom and the broader life of the boarding community.

In particular at St Mary's, we pride ourselves on our focus on the needs of individual girls. This is underpinned by the tutorial system in which all members of the academic staff play a full part, looking after a number of Tutees; these tend to be drawn from the particular House in which each member of staff tutors.

The Mathematics Department

The Mathematics Department currently consists of five full-time teachers and one part-time teacher. The department is very experienced and cooperates extremely well as a team. Each member of the department is expected to be able to teach the full range of age and ability. The department occupies a space in the staffroom where all members are co-located, facilitating team work and cohesion. Each of the teaching rooms has a computer and a data projector and there a number of computer suites which can be booked for use as appropriate. The department has access to individual laptops and graphical calculators and we regularly use ICT resources within lessons.

Lessons last 60 minutes and all classes up to IGCSE have three periods per week. Pupils entering in the LIV Form (Year 7) are given an immediate diagnostic test, after which they are allocated to sets. There are generally three sets in the MIV Form (Year 8); these are fluid to allow girls who have made very good progress the opportunity to rise. At the start of the UIV Form (Year 9), we give more diagnostic tests to the whole year to help us to put them into five sets. After the first term of the UIV Form, we start the Edexcel IGCSE course.

The subject is thriving at A Level with usually around a half of the LVI Form cohort taking either Mathematics or Mathematics combined with Further Mathematics or AS Mathematics (taken over 2 years). Students have six periods a week for single Mathematics, twelve for the double course, and 3 for AS. All classes follow the new Edexcel specifications. Examination results are excellent, with many students gaining A* or A grade at A Level. One of our department colleagues regularly support girls with the preparation of Oxbridge applications for a variety of subjects.

We offer many opportunities for the gifted and talented, including participation in the UKMT Maths Challenges at Junior, Intermediate and Senior Levels; we run a number of events and trips. The department run a number of Maths surgeries throughout the week to help our girls with their Mathematics and the Learning Support team offers extra lessons for those who require more individualised support.

Person Specification

Essential

- University Graduate in a related subject
- Qualified teacher with an ability to teach Maths to IGCSE Level and possibly to A Level
- Excellent communication skills
- Motivation to work with young people
- Good IT skills
- Willingness to participate in the wider life of a boarding school
- The ability to tutor girls and be pastorally aware of their needs
- The ability to use initiative
- The ability to relate effectively with pupils and their parents
- The ability to be flexible and work independently
- The desire to develop professionally on a continuous basis.

Desirable

- Knowledge and experience of the Edexcel IGCSE and A Level specifications.

Further details and how to apply

St Mary's has its own generous salary scale with benefits, including for a nominal fee, membership of the St Mary's Sports Centre, a staff discount on fees of daughters educated at the school and meals during term time.

Further information about the school may be viewed on the website: www.stmaryscalne.org

An application form may be downloaded from the website or can be sent on request. Please contact the following:

Mrs Karen Turner
St Mary's School
Calne
Wiltshire
SN11 0DF

Email: teacher.recruitment@stmaryscalne.org

Tel: 01249 857 338

A fully completed application form, together with a covering letter, should be sent by email to: teacher.recruitment@stmaryscalne.org. Receipt of an application will be acknowledged as soon as possible.

Email is very much our preferred method of receiving applications. If this is problematic, please contact us by telephone on the above number.

Closing date for applications: **Midday, Monday 19th February 2018**

St Mary's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils. Due to the nature of the work involved, the successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced DBS check.

All members of staff are expected to have proper regard for the school's safeguarding policy and procedures, including up-to-date training. Extracts from the school's policy are appended as the final page of this document.

Extract from ST MARY'S CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

St Mary's Calne fully recognises its responsibilities for Child Protection.

We are dedicated to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our boarders and day girls, regardless of age, ability, race, culture, religion, sexuality or class. We follow the child protection procedures set out by the Wiltshire Safeguarding Children Board and have regard to statutory guidance issued by the Department for Education *Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2016*. Our policy takes full regard to *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 (WT)*, *What to do if you are Worried a Child is Being Abused (2015)* and the *National Minimum Boarding Standards (2015)*.

At St Mary's we have a 'Nominated Governor' to take leadership responsibility for the school's safeguarding arrangements.

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding can be defined as promoting the health, safety and welfare of all pupils.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of all adults, especially those working or volunteering with children. The school aims to help protect the children in its care by working consistently and appropriately with all relevant agencies to reduce risk and promote the welfare of children.

Staff:

- are advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' as far as safeguarding is concerned;
- should always act in the best interest of the child.

What is child protection?

Child protection is a part of safeguarding and promoting welfare. This refers to the activity which is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or at risk of suffering, significant harm.